

#18-1265

OLC 71-0369
May 13, 1971

27 MAY 1971

Mr. Clifford Hackett
Subcommittee on Europe
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hackett:

It was pleasant to chat with you the other day about our mutual friend McKinney Russell. I thought you might like a copy of the Washington Post article about him.

I take the liberty of enclosing a couple of brief write-ups on Radio Liberty, and also an excerpt from the proceedings of a recent conference of British scholars which dealt with the phenomenon of sanizdat and Radio Liberty's role as an information medium for Soviet citizens who cannot gain access to their country's official media. I thought you might like to have this information on file.

If I can be of service whenever queries arise about Radio Liberty, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

James Critchlow
Director,
Information Division

JC/lg
Encs.

cc, HHS, Lavin, Scott

State Dept. review completed

May 13, 1971

RL CONFIDENTIAL

17 MAY 1971

Memorandum for the Record

From: James Critchlow

Subject: House of Representative Contacts

Having learned from Ken Scott of the interest in RFE/RL manifested by Representatives Rosenthal and Wolff during their recent Munich stopover, I checked with the appropriate authority and then called their offices this week.

Mrs. Chrissos, Congressman Rosenthal's appointments secretary, connected me with his administrative assistant, Miss Mary W. Davis, who, after consulting with the Congressman, referred me to Mr. Clifford Hackett of the staff of the Subcommittee on Europe of the House Foreign Affairs Committee. (Congressman Rosenthal is chairman of the Subcommittee on Europe.) Mr. Hackett, a former Foreign Service officer, turned out to be an old friend from Congo days of McKinney Russell, so we had a pleasant and leisurely chat, during which I was able to explain that experience has shown us that people who have not been closely connected with RL frequently have misconceptions about it, and to pass on to him some information about our basic role and concepts. Mr. Hackett took my name so that he can get back to me should the question of the radios come before the Congressman.

In Congressman Wolff's office I spoke with a Mrs. Roberts, who also took my name after checking with the Congressman.

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I gathered that both Congressmen have a potential interest in the radios because of their membership on the Foreign Affairs Committee. At the present time, however, they are occupied with other matters. Both of them are members of a Congressional group which has recently been touring the country to speak against the Vietnam war. In addition, Congressman Rosenthal was due to give testimony on the Middle East before a subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs Committee; his name was also mentioned in this morning's New York Times in connection with his accusation that the Administration is "encouraging a deliberate and massive attack" by businessmen "on the legitimacy of the consumer movement and on the integrity of its leaders."

Bill Korey of B'nai Brith tells me that both Congressmen have a long-standing interest in the problems of Soviet Jewry.

JC/lg

cc: Messrs. Sargeant, Sosin, Scott

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